

Message Text

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63

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APPROVED BY P:JJSISCO

S/CPR - AMB. ROCKWELL

NEA:ALATHERTON

S/S: JPMOFFAT

WH: MR. OAKLEY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

S E C R E T STATE 127936

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, TC; US

SUBJECT: INVITATION TO SHAIKH ZAYID TO VISIT US

REF: ABU DHABI 0971

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SISCO

1. WE HAVE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED YOUR RECOMMENDATION THAT WE INVITE UAE PRESIDENT SHAIKH ZAYID FOR A STATE VISIT SOME TIME THIS SUMMER. WHILE WE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE IDEA OF A VISIT BY ZAYID, OUR PROBLEM IS ITS TIMING BECAUSE OF THE PRESIDENT'S ALREADY HEAVY SCHEDULE OF COMMITMENTS THIS CALENDAR YEAR. ANOTHER CONSIDERATION IS THE ADDITIONAL OBLIGATIONS TO NEIGHBORING GULF STATES WHICH AN INVITATION TO ZAYID WILL INEVITABLY GENERATE. NEVERTHELESS, WE BELIEVE THAT ZAYID SHOULD BE NEXT LOWER GULF CHIEF OF STATE TO VISIT WASHINGTON AND WE ARE PLANNING

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ON THAT BASIS.

2. WE WILL CONTINUE TO LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO SCHEDULE
VISIT AS SOON AS CONDITIONS PERMIT BUT IT UNLIKELY VISIT
COULD BE SCHEDULED THIS YEAR. INGERSOLL

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